

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 287616 TOSEC 310101

11
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NEA-02 /018 R

66011
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APPROVED BY: S/S-O:DLMACK
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P 260830Z NOV 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 287616 TOSEC 310101

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION LONDON, BEIRUT INFO CAIRO, DAMASCUS,
PARIS FROM STATE NOV 24:

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 287616

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, LE, UK

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH FCO ON LEBANON

REF: LONDON 18604

1. BRITISH EMBOFFS HERE HAVE ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING OFFICE IN CHRISTIAN-DOMINATED AREA OF LEBANON WITH US ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS OVER LAST SEVERAL MONTHS. THESE DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SECURITY HAZARDS OF PERSONNEL FROM MISSIONS IN WEST BEIRUT ATTEMPTING TO CROSS TO THE EAST FOR NORMAL CONTACTS WITH SARKIS AND CHRISTIAN LEADERS. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY TOLD BRITISH THAT WE WERE OPPOSED TO SUCH FACILITIES AND OUR DISINCLINATION IS EVEN STRONGER NOW THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION HAS IMPROVED MEASURABLY AND THE POSSIBILITY FOR MORE REGULAR CONTACT HAS IMPROVED.

2. SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, THE ISSUE OF A US OFFICE IN
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CHRISTIAN TERRITORY WAS NOT A MAJOR QUESTION IN OUR CHARGE'S

RECENT ROUND OF TALKS WITH CHRISTIAN LEADERS. FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, IT IS FAR PREFERABLE TO FOSTER FREER TRAVEL FOR DIPLOMATS AND OTHERS IN A REUNIFIED BEIRUT AND LEBANON THAN TO REINFORCE LINGERING THOUGHTS OF PARTITION BY ESTABLISHING OTHER OFFICES A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY.

3. AS REGARDS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON, WE HAVE PROVIDED AID WORTH MORE THAN \$14 MILLION FOR LEBANON SINCE NOVEMBER 1975. OF THAT TOTAL, \$4 MILLION HAVE BEEN GRANTED TO THE UN AND ICRC SINCE OCTOBER 1, 1976 FROM THE \$20 MILLION IN RELIEF AID APPROPRIATED BY CONGRESS FOR FY-77. A SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF THIS ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN GIVEN TO AUH IN THE FORM OF BOTH MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND FINANCING AND WE CURRENTLY HAVE BEFORE US REQUESTS FROM AUH FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IN BOTH CATEGORIES.

4. AS SECURITY IS CONSOLIDATED IN LEBANON AND THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF PRES. SARKIS PREPARES PLANS FOR RECONSTRUCTION, WE WILL BE CONSIDERING WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN PARTICIPATE IN THAT PROCESS. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT SARKIS SEND AN EMISSARY TO WASHINGTON WHEN HE IS READY TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT. ROBINSON UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 AID-05 IGA-02 IO-13 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03

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NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

----- 100857

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T STATE 287616

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TACT HAS IMPROVED.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, LE, UK
To: LONDON BEIRUT
Type: TE
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